

Community Appearance Commission

Minutes

April 6, 2005

The regular meeting of the Salisbury Community Appearance Commission was called to order on Wednesday, April 6, 2005 at 4:15 p.m. by Chairman Bruce Wilson, in the Council Chamber, 217 South Main Street, Salisbury, North Carolina. The following members were present and no member was absent:

Present: Cindee Bridges, Greta Connor, Suzette Davis, James Donaldson, Judy Kandl, Michael Lippard, Barbara Perry, Bill Safrit, Johnny Safrit, Preston Sale, and Bruce Wilson

Staff: Lynn Raker and Diana Moghrabi

After some refreshment, Chairman Bruce Wilson opened the meeting with the approval of the March minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Art in Public Places

Mosaic. Artist Robert Crum is installing the tile mosaic at its permanent location on Depot Street. It is time to get back into the fundraising mode for this project. Robert Crum has talked to Rose Post (*Salisbury Post*) about an article for the newspaper on the subject of this mosaic. Mr. Crum has offered to have a fundraiser for the mosaic at his gallery.

Lynn Raker informed members that \$12,500 has been raised and more money is needed.

HAT (History and Art Trail). Barbara Perry reported that grants for the markers have been applied for, but only the Proctor Foundation has awarded a grant at this time. The committee continues to work on the marker system.

Mr. Setzer, of the Blanche and Julian Robertson Foundation, met with the committee and recommended that they apply for a grant for a larger installation on East Innes Street, near the new Railroad Bridge, when the project was further along. The committee anticipates making a presentation to the foundation and other potential funding partners in October.

Public Art at Railroad Bridge. A "request for qualifications" for an art installment at the Railroad Bridge is planned. There will be no geographical limitations; anyone over the age of 18 is eligible to apply. There will be a small panel of qualified individuals who

will make the selection of artists. The initial list will be narrowed down during the summer to three to five artists. Those artists will be invited to Salisbury for an interview before the committee. They will receive about \$2,000 for expenses. The maquettes (or models) they provide will be taken before the local foundations by the committee. The foundations will be more responsive to this than to a concept. Next spring the committee will work on fundraising, but they will have selected an artist.

This will be a big community project and it will be important to have community “buy-in.”

Neighborhoods & Education Committee

- *Spring Spruce-Up, April 25-29.* Neighborhood leaders and the CAC received an invitation, brochure, and fun facts in the mail in an effort to promote the Spring Spruce Up. The leadership meeting is on Wednesday, April 13 from 4-5 p.m. at One Water Street. Lynn Raker asked the retiring members of the CAC to attend the meeting.

Greta Connor said that her neighborhood sent out flyers with information about the Spring Spruce Up. They will put trash at a central location in their neighborhood.

- *Jersey City.* James Donaldson requested a start date for the Jersey City neighborhood improvements. Lynn Raker said that the City is currently acquiring easements from property owners. This will take a couple of months.

Landscaping

- *Yard of the Month.* The last commercial winner was Manning Park in September of 2004; the residential winner was the Huffman residence at 228 W. Bank Street.

After some discussion, the CAC voted on the Landscape Yard of the Month for April/May. Livingstone College-Old Hood Seminary was the commercial winner, and Fred and Remei Evans' home was elected the residential winner (corner of Craig and Monroe Streets). James Donaldson will contact Mr. & Mrs. Evans to make them aware of the award. Johnny Safrit will put up a sign. Cindee Bridges will install the commercial winner's sign.

- Lynn Raker nominated 1910 Bringle Ferry Road for the next residential award.
- Cindee Bridges will take over as chair of the Landscape Committee
- The Yard of the Month signs need to be replaced.

Municipal Service District (MSD) and Innes Street Improvement Grants (ISG)

Morgan's Coffee Shop will be relocating. It is not known if the new occupant of the building will be using the grant money that has been awarded the property. The finance director has informed staff that money not used cannot be allocated to other applicants.

Benchwarmers, on Fisher Street, has painted the building; it looks very good.

OLD BUSINESS

- Sales Sign Committee has become a Council committee. Staff had a meeting with Pete Kennedy and Paul Woodson. No decisions have been made. There was an informal discussion on signs.

NEW BUSINESS

- A text amendment committee is organizing. Members include representation from the Historic Preservation Committee (Ron Fleming and Wayne Whitman), the Community Appearance Commission (Judy Kandl and Michael Lippard), and the Planning Board (Len Clark and Bryce Ulrich). They will be discussing the downtown sign ordinance.
- Barbara Perry was elected as Chair of the CAC and Bill Safrit was elected as Vice Chair of the CAC. They will serve for one year.
- Members leaving the CAC received a certificate of appreciation.
- Barbara Lawther, Chad Morgan, and Sara Robinson will be the new CAC members.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Bruce Wilson inquired about the repositioning of the eagle sculpture on Innes Street. He thought that it would be good to have the eagles soar in a different location – like the Community Park. The building where they are located is currently for sale or lease.
- The Freedman's Cemetery project is going out to bid. A public notice is scheduled to be published in the Salisbury Post this weekend. The deadline to receive bids is May 11. Groundbreaking could take place the week of June 19. The hope is that it would be completed by mid-September.
- The City's *Access 16* is now available for cable television customers. CAC programs are announced on this station, as well as other City Boards, Commissions, and city-sponsored activities. Bruce Wilson recommended that the station be used for announcements like the need for funding on the Mosaic Project and other 'hot points.'

- Bruce Wilson suggested that we give the “Did You Know?” brochure to the Visitors Center.
- Retailers can affix any number of signs to the *inside* of their store windows.
- Barbara Perry will be serving on a committee to decorate the downtown for Christmas. Lynn Raker has information on how to make a “tree” out of plants. Lynn Raker will look into this idea. Barbara let the committee know that the CAC does not have resources to contribute to this project.

Someone will need to take responsibility for Christmas decorations on the Innes Street Bridge. Electricity is available on the bridge.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned.

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